Appl. No. 09/738,248
Amdt. dated January 19, 2005
Reply to Office action of October 20, 2004

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for electronic voting over a global computer network, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for requesting a voting ballot, for an election in which a voting entity has a right to vote, the request being made through a voting entity process using a public key and a private key of the voting entity, wherein the voting entity encrypts the ballot request with a voting mediator's public key, signs the ballot request with the voting entity's private key and sends the ballot request to a voting mediator;

~~a voting ballot through a voting-entity process using a public key and a private key of the voting entity~~;

instructions for validating said voting ballot request by a voting mediator, using a separate public key and private key of the voting mediator;

instructions for generating an electronic ballot by the voting mediator;

instructions for sending the generated ballot to said voting entity;

instructions for receiving a vote in said electronic ballot by said voting entity and sending said electronic ballot to a voting tabulator; and

instructions for counting the vote of the electronic ballot in the voting tabulator.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 17 wherein said ballot requesting instruction further comprises:

instructions for obtaining a voting certificate from the voting mediator; and

instructions for extracting the voting mediator's public key from the voting certificate.;

~~instructions for encrypting the ballot request with the voting mediator's public key~~.

Claim 19 (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 18 further comprising an instruction for packaging said ballot request within a sealed object, said sealed object comprising a signature of the data, voting certificate and an encryption of the sealed objects.

Claim 20 (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising an instruction for signing said ballot request with voting entity's private key and sending said ballot request to the voting mediator.

Claim 21 (Original) The computer program product as described in of claim 20 further comprising the steps of:

    receiving said ballot request by the voting mediator;

    decrypting the encrypted ballot request with said voting mediator's private key;

    validating said voting entity's certificate; and authenticating; and

    verifying the integrity of signed ballot request using the public key within said voting entity's certificate.

Claim 22 (Original) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for representing a person or group that will be voting over a computer network, the computer program product comprising:

    instructions for requesting an electronic voting ballot using a public key and a private key of said computer program product;

    instructions for receiving the requested electronic voting ballot for the purpose of voting in an election voting the computer network;

    instructions for receiving a vote on the electronic ballot, said voting being cast over a computer network; and

    instructions for sending said electronic ballot to be tabulated.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for authorizing and creating anonymous electronic ballots for use in voting over a computer network, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for receiving a ballot request from a voting entity;

instructions for decrypting the ballot request;

instructions for validating a voting certificate contained in the ballot request;

instructions for creating ~~erating~~ an electronic ballot based on information contained in the ballot request; and

instructions for sending a created electronic ballot to the voting entity making ~~the source of~~ the ballot request.

Claim 24 (Original) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for tabulating election results for an election in which electronic ballots, submitted over a computer network, are used, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for receiving encrypted voting information containing an electronic ballot;

instructions for decrypting the received encrypted voting information; instructions for validating the electronic ballot contained in the voting information; and

instructions for incrementing vote totals to include votes of the electronic ballot contained in the received voting information.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn) A computer connectable to a distributed computing system including a process for voting electronically over said distributed system comprising:

a processor; a native operating system to manage resources in the computing system;

a client program for representing a person or group that will be voting in an election;

a server program for authorizing and creating electronic voting ballots; and a second server program for receiving, validating and tabulating electronic voting ballets.

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      Claim 26 (Withdrawn) The computer as described in claim 25 wherein each of said client

program, server and second server has a separate public key and private key.

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